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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 503  
By DeBerry L

A RESOLUTION to honor Marcia L. Fudge, Esq., the first African American and first woman Mayor of Warrensville Heights, Ohio, for her exemplary public service.

WHEREAS, the members of the Tennessee General Assembly and the members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority are most proud and appreciative of those outstanding black women of vision and courage who do much to propel their communities forward; and

WHEREAS, Marcia L. Fudge, Esq., after bravely running for office and blazing new trails in the process, is presently serving as the Mayor of Warrensville Heights, Ohio; she is the first African American and the first woman to serve in this important position in the city's 193-year history; and

WHEREAS, following her graduation from Shaker Heights High School, Mayor Fudge received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Ohio State University in 1975; and

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WHEREAS, after completing her undergraduate degree, she sought to further her education by obtaining a Juris Doctor degree from Cleveland Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University in June 1983; and

WHEREAS, she has worked as an attorney in private industry, the cities of Cleveland and Bedford, Cuyahoga County, the State of Ohio, and in the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the largest Black women's sorority in the nation, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, Mayor Fudge serves ably and efficiently as its current National President; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Fudge espouses the ideal of the Adinkra Ghanaian symbol *Pempamsie* (pim-pam-see-ah), which suggests that a person is symbolically a link in a chain, and that each link in the chain is special, or important; the Akan proverb expressing this concept is: "The strength of the many lies in unity; for once a people are resolved in unity, nothing stops them from reaching their target"; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Fudge has previously utilized her peerless skills in various leadership positions in the budget, tax and audit departments of Cuyahoga County government; she has also served with distinction as Chief of Staff for U.S. Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Fudge held a visiting judgeship prior to her exemplary tenure as Mayor of Warrensville Heights; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Fudge has evinced a strong presence through her productive membership on the Boards of the Cleveland Public Library and Alcoa Aluminum and the Judge Lloyd O. Brown Scholarship Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Fudge gathers strength from her church, the Glenville Church of God, and models her life after her mother, Ms. Marian Saffold; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to honor the accomplishments of this great African American citizen and public servant; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED  
FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE  
CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Mayor Marcia L. Fudge and express our sincere  
pride and appreciation for this woman of stature and integrity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared  
for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.